# Jobs, Education, & Training (JET)

Prepared by the

Department of Human Services

for presentation to the

House Standing Committee on Families and Children's Services

March 7, 2007

## Helping Low Income Families Attain Self-Sufficiency

- 1 million Michigan residents live in poverty
- 239,778 receive cash assistance (88,472 families)
- 50,367 have been on cash assistance for four years or longer (13,356 families with 36,831 children)
- Profile of long term recipients
  - 97% are single parents with children
  - 15% have disabilities or caring for a family member with disabilities
  - 21% are working and receiving wages
- Current cash grant is \$489 for a family of 3

## Impetus for Change

- Parents lack the skill & education required for employment in high-wage, high-demand industries.
- Wages are insufficient to lift families out of poverty.
- Increasing number of children in poverty.
- Re-applications for FIP are common.
- Re-referrals to Work First are frequent and costly.
- Little attention to parents with disabilities.
- State policy is not producing the results needed to meet federal standards for work participation in the TANF reauthorization.

## Impetus for Change

- 50% of those sent through Work First program return to cash assistance
- Nearly 60% of long term cash assistance recipients sent to Work First return to cash assistance.
  - 30% of these cases return within 3 months
  - 60% of these cases return within 6 months

## A New Vision and Approach

- A new approach—
  - not a return to the open-ended training and education programs that were offered prior to welfare reform
  - not a continuation of the Work First model
- Policies and strategies designed to meet family and community needs through
  - Strong community planning/partnerships
  - Screening and assessment for strengths and barriers
  - Individualized single self-sufficiency plans for families
  - Wider range of activities and education/training opportunities
  - MRS consultation and services for parents with disabilities

## Jobs, Education and Training Goals

- Reduce child poverty
- Increase participation in work-related activities
- Reduce FIP Caseload
  - Short-term family support
  - Reduce recycling/return to FIP
- Increase FIP Case Closures
  - Through better service planning
  - Through sustained employment
  - Through fair and consistent application of penalties
- Increase participant Skills/Credentials
  - Tie basic skill development to job skill training
  - Obtain credentials required by employers
- Increase in Participant Wages over time

### 2006 JET pilot sites

The following sites began in April 2006:

- Kent County
- Sanilac County
- Oakland County (Madison Heights)
- Wayne County (Glendale/Trumbull)

(Serve 10% of TANF population)

# 2007 JET Sites These sites began in January 2007

- Antrim
- Benzie
- Berrien
- Clinton
- Eaton
- Genesee (All districts)
- Grand Traverse
- Ingham
- Kalkaska
- Macomb (All districts)
   (Serve 50% of TANF population)

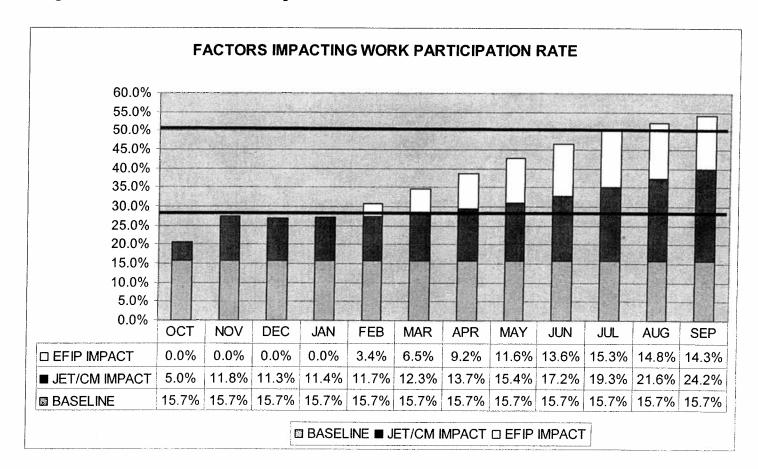
- Manistee
- Muskegon
- Oakland Walled Lake
- Oakland Pontiac
- Saginaw
- Washtenaw
- Wayne Medbury
- Wayne Forest/Ellery
- Wayne Gratiot/7 Mile
- Wayne Hamtramck combined with the original sites.)

#### JET and WORK PARTICIPATION

- Federal Target of 50%
- Michigan Adjusted target for FY06 = 0%
- Michigan Adjusted target for FY07 = 27.7%
- Participation baseline of 15.7%
- Goal 1 Annual rate of no less than 30%
- Goal 2 Monthly rate of no less than 50% by September 2007
- Statewide Rate through Nov 06 = 24.2%
- JET site rate through Nov 06 = 30.8%

#### JET and WORK PARTICIPATION

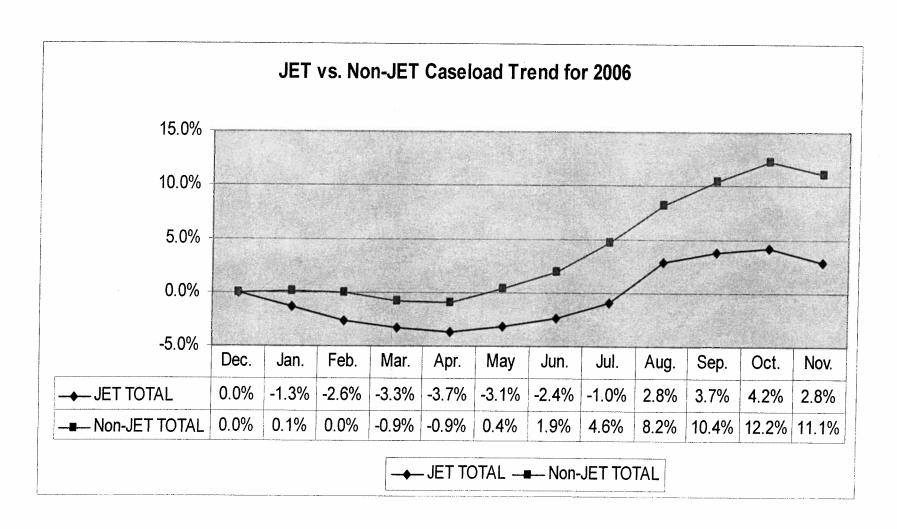
- Quarterly targets 24%, 30%, 38%, 50%
- Projected monthly rates for FY07



# JOBS EDUCATION AND TRAINING (JET)

- Expanded to 19 counties and 29 sites
- Serves 50% of FIP clients
- Higher rate of FIP closures in 4 original sites
- Lower caseload growth in original sites
- In 2006, JET sites experienced a 3% increase in FIP caseload compared to an 11% increase in the remainder of the state
- 6.6% higher participation rate in JET sites

#### JET/Non-JET Caseloads



### JET/Non-JET Participation Rates

